

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00981 021103Z
ACTION NODS-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0981

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADORS

E.O. 11652: XGDS1
TAGS: PINT, MZ, RH
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT MACHEL'S COMMENTS ON RHODESIA
DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) STATE 185975 (B) MAPUTO 0929

1. AMBASSADOR AND DCM MET AUGUST 1 WITH PRESIDENT
MACHEL AND SERGIO VIEIRA TO REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS ON RHODESIAN
SITUATION SINCE GRAHAM/LOW MAPUTO VISIT OF JULY 5-6. AMBASSDOR
EXPRESSED OUR REGRET OVER THE LOSS OF LIFE AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY
WHICH HAD BEEN CAUSED BY RHODESIAN RAIDS OF JULY 31-31. MACHEL'S
ONLY COMMENT ON RECENT ATTACKS WAS: "THIS WASN'T AN ATTACK
BY SMITH, IT WAS AN ATTACK BY SMITH MUZOREWA SITHOLE AND CHIRAU".

2. AMBASSADOR INFORMED MACHEL OF GRAHAM/LOW STOPS
AFTER MAPUTO AND NOTED THAT THEY WILL BE RETURNING
SHORTLY TO SOUTHERN AFRICA TO PURSUE EFFORTS TO ARRANGE
AN ALL PARTIES MEETING. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY AS TO WHAT MACHEL
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HAD TO REPORT FROM KHARTOUM, MACHEL RECOUNTED HIS MEETING WITH
MUGABE IMMEDIATELY AFTER MACHEL'S JULY 5 MEETING
WITH GRAHAM/LOW. MACHEL SAID
HE EMPHASIZED FOLLOWING POINTS TO MUGABE: (A) THE
SITUATION IN RHODESIA IS MUCH LIKE THE MOZAMBIQUE
SITUATION OF 1974: IT IS COMPLEX AND THE SMITH REGIME
MUST BE GIVEN A CHANCE TO SAVE FACE-MUCH LIKE FRELIMO GAVE

THE PORTUGUESE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE FACE:
(B) FRELIMO NEGOTIATED WITH PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT IN SECRET AND
NOT IN FRONT OF PRESS--SMALL MEETINGS OFFER
BEST CHANCE FOR SUCCESS; (C) WE KNOW THAT SMITH WANTS
TO GET OUT, BUT HE WANTS TO EXIT WITH GRACE AND NOT AS
A PRISONER: (D) YOU SHOULD TALK TO GRAHAM/LOW AND NOT
MAKE STATEMENTS TO PRESS ABOUT DISCUSSIONS.

3. MACHEL ASKED MUGABE IF HE WOULD ACCEPT A SECRET
MEETING AND MUGABE SAID HE WOULD, BUT HE WANTED TO
TALK TO NKOMO. MUGABE ACCEPTED ZAMBIA FOR PROPOSED
MEETING, BUT REJECTED BOTSWANA BECAUSE OF LACK OF
SECURITY FROM RHODESIAN/SA ATTACKS. MACHEL TOLD
MUGABE THAT MOZAMBIQUE WOULD INSIST ON SETTLEMENT
BASED ON ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS, IF UK/US ABANDONED
THESE PRINCIPLES, MOZAMBIQUE WOULD FULLY SUPPORT PF'S
LIBERATION WAR. MACHEL ADDED THAT IF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN
PROPOSALS WERE SHELVED IT WOULD BE A VICTORY
FOR THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. MUGABE WAS NOT PREPARED
TO HOLD SECRET TALKS
DURING JULY 26-28 BECAUSE OF
COMMITMENT TO ATTEND HAVANA CELEBRATIONS.
MACHEL SAID MUGABE IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE BACK IN MAPUTO THURSDAY
AUGUST 3.

4. TURNING TO KHARTOUM SUMMIT, MACHEL SAID HE HAD
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TALKED TO KAUNDA AND NYERERE, AND HE THOUGHT NYERERE
HAD AGREED TO IDEA OF SECRET MEETING BETWEEN SMITH
AND PF. MACHEL HAD NOT SEEN NKOMO THERE BECAUSE NKOMO
LEFT EARLY. MACHEL THEN RETURNED TO THEME OF UK/US
SUPPORT FOR AAP AND, IN A PASSING REFERENCE TO HELMS
AMENDMENT STATED THAT IF UK/US SHOULD AID THE
INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IT WOULD BE "GRAVE PROBLEM" FOR
MOZAMBIQUE AND THE OAU. MACHEL STRESSED NEED FOR UN
SUPERVISION AND FORCES IN RHODESIA, AND EMPHASIZED
IMPORTANCE OF ELECTIONS THAT ARE FREE AND DEMOCRATIC.
HE AGAIN RAISED SPECTER OF CIVIL WAR. SAID IF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS
SHOULD WITHDRAW ITS SUPPORT FOR THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. HE
SAID THAT PRESIDENT CARTER SHOULD KNOW THAT GPRM DOES NOT WANT
A REPEAT OF ANGOLA, AND
US SHOULD SUPPORT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND NOT FAVOR
EITHER MUGABE OR NKOMO. MACHEL ADDED THAT NEITHER
MUZOREWA NOR SITHOLE IS THE DECISIVE ELEMENT IN RHODESIA.
ONLY SMITH IS DECISIVE BECAUSE HE HAS THE
POWER AND A MEETING WITHOUT SMITH IS WORTH NOTHING.

5. AMBASSADOR THANKED MACHEL FOR HIS EFFORTS ON BEHALF
OF THE AAP, AND REMARKED HOW USEFUL IT IS TO HAVE

MACHEL'S VIEWS.
DE PREE

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